



City of Cambridge
Department of Human Service Programs
51 Inman Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, 498-9076

MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert W. Healy
FROM: Jill Herold *JH*
DATE: April 24, 1991
RE: Council Order No. 9, dated 4/1/91;
Implications of "Child Care Affordability Scholarship
Assistance Fund" on Cambridge".

In response to Council Order No. 9, dated April 1, 1991, regarding Chapter 521 under the Acts of 1990: "An Act Relative to Child Care in the Commonwealth", the following is a synopsis of the provisions of the new amendment and its implications on the City of Cambridge.

Section 5A provides incentive to developers to expand up to 10% of the overall FAR to include space for Child Care facilities. Non-profit providers will be charged for the cost of utilities and maintenance, cleaning and security only. Real estate taxes will be charged to For Profit providers. The owner will not impose a charge for the cost of alterations necessary to meet O.F.C. standards. Some restrictions will apply to the additional 10% area. Cambridge may need to make a change in the language of the zoning law. Additional Child Care facilities could potentially be available, however, speculation is that there will not be any real impact for the immediate future rather there will be a more long term impact over the next 20 years.

"Another section forbids....". No special permits are currently required for Child Care facilities in Cambridge. Child Care facilities must have a current Certificate of Inspection issued by Inspectional Services as required by the Office for Children licensing standards. No special permits can be established for the zoning change.

"The state is creating....." The proposed fund is to be administered by the Affordability Task Force established in 1986. The source of funds can include 1) state appropriations; 2) gifts, grants, and donations from public or private sources; 3) interest earned from fund reserves; 4) federal reimbursement, grant-in-aid

DIVISIONS:

Childcare
498-9076

Community & Youth
498-9037/9072

Low Income Fuel Assistance
498-9038

Recreation
498-9028

Community Learning Center
547-1589

Council on Aging/Elderly Services
498-9039

Planning & Development
498-9076

MultiService Center/Homeless Services
864-6340

and other receipts which can be used for funding Child Care services; and 5) any other monies credited or transferred to the fund from any source pursuant to law. Cambridge children whose families' income is not more than one hundred and ten percent of the median income of families in the Commonwealth will be eligible, if and when funds become available.

Additional provisions of the law include: 50% of the children enrolled in a Child Care facility established under this law shall be from low income families. Owners, if not the Child Care facility operator, will not be subject to any claim, liability or penalty arising from or based upon any injury to person or loss or damage to property unless the damage is caused by negligence.

On or after September 1, 1991 no contract for goods or services of any type shall be awarded by the Commonwealth or any such authority to an employer having 50 or more employees unless such employer is a qualified employer, or offers child care tuition assistance, or on-site or near-site subsidized child care placements. Cambridge residents whose employer is required to provide child care tuition assistance and/or a child care facility will benefit from either the reduced tuition or child care in a convenient location and potentially at a lower cost. Local Child Care providers may be solicited to be a "near-site" location whose care will be subsidized by the parent's employer. A plan to implement this is to be developed by the Secretary of Administration and transmitted to the Senate and House Committees on Ways and Means no later than May 1, 1991.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
FAX 349-4307

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

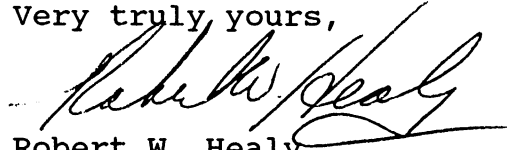
RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

April 29, 1991

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report #18 regarding the Childcare Affordability Assistance Fund, please find attached a report from Jill Herold, Assistant City Manager for Human Services.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Attachment

5
CONSENT AGENDA

S-508
Awaiting Report Item No. 18 regarding
Childcare Affordability Assistance Fund.

In City Council,

April 29, 1991

Placed on file.